[24th September 1956

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) About 380 applications.

(b) The Collector of Coimbatore has since appointed a special staff of one Tahsildar and three Revenue Inspectors to attend to the speedy disposal of the loan applications pending in the taluk.

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH : Sir, may I know whether the Government will be pleased to make additional allotment since the present allotment is almost exhausted?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Yes, Sir. I understand that further amounts may be allotted to the district and Kollegal taluk will get its proportionate allotment.

SRI S. C. VIRUPAKSHIAH : Sir, an additional allotment of Rs. 50,000 has been made. Even that has almost run out. May I know whether a further allotment will be made?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : My information is not up to date.

Development of inland waterways

* 195 Q.—SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Central Government have requested the State Government to exploit and utilize the canal transport facilities in this State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken by the Government in the matter?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

(b) The inclusion of the following three schemes for the development of inland waterways in the Second Five-Year Plan has been recommended to the Government of India and their orders are awaited :—

(1) Improvements to North Buckingham Canal—Estimated cost Rs. 20 lakhs.

(2) Connecting Buckingham Canal to Madras Harbour—Estimated cost Rs. 25 lakhs.

(3) Improvements to Vedaranyam Canal—Estimated cost Rs. 6·10 lakhs.

SRI P. RANGASWAMI REDDIAR : Sir, was our Government consulted regarding the proposal for the linking of the Ganges with the Cauvery and further extending the canal transport up to Cochin?

THE HON. SRI R. SHANMUGA RAJESWARA SETHUPATHI : We have not been consulted officially.